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Patent Case No.: 56777US002

Customer Number

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: BERQUIST, DAVID T. Application No.: 09/876432

Filed: Title:

June 7, 2001

Kumiko C. Koyama Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

2876

RFID DATA COLLECTION AND USE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111 AND PETITION FOR THREE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR § 1.136(A)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION To Fax No.: 703-872-9306 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action, mailed February 27, 2004, in the above-identified application.

This Amendment is believed timely submitted as extended by the petition for a three (3) month extension of time submitted below. With a three (3) month extension of time, the deadline for replying to the Office Action is extended from May 27, 2004 to August 27, 2004.

PAGE 3/5 * RCVD AT 8/30/2004 2:04:55 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/5 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:6517364517 * DURATION (mm-ss):02-02

Application No.: 09/876432

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Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Garber et al. in view of Markman and Harrison be withdrawn.

<u>Dependent Claims 2-7, 9-17 and 19-24</u>: Lastly, Applicants point out that the Examiner did not include any discussion in the Office Action regarding any of the dependent claims, claims 2-7, 9-17 and 19-24. The Office Action discussion was solely focused on only the independent claims. Therefore, there is no support for the obviousness rejection against claims 2-7, 9-17 and 19-24, which is insufficient under the current law. Therefore, the rejection against claims 2-7, 9-17 and 19-24 is unsupported by art and should be withdrawn.

Withdrawal of the outstanding rejection and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. If a telephonic conference would be helpful in resolving any outstanding matters in the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact applicants' undersigned representative.

Bv:

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa E. Buss, Reg. No.: 47,465 Telephone No.: (651) 733-0649

Date

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel 3M Innovative Properties Company Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

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